The Southern PATRIOT

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Southern Professors Vote To End Segregation In Professional Schools

In 7 out of 11 Southern State Universities, Arkansas, Florida, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, a majority of the faculty favors the elimination of racial bars in the graduate and professional schools according to a study conducted by the Southern Conference Educational Fund, publishers of **The Southern Patriot.**

In 3 of the 11 States, Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina a majority of the University faculty favors the establishment of segregated regional schools for Negroes as proposed by the Southern Governors Conference. At the University of Alabama the faculty was evenly divided between the two plans.

Four Plans

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that graduate and professional instruction offered by a State to white students must at the same time be offered to Negro students. Four different courses of action have been taken by Southern States in response to this ruling.

(1) **Plan A.** Opening the doors of graduate schools to Negroes **without segregation,** when the desired courses are not offered by a State supported institution for Negroes. Adopted by the University of Delaware, the University of Maryland Law School, the University of Arkansas Medical School.

(2) **Plan B.** Admission of Negroes, but **with segregation.** Adopted by the University of Arkansas Law School, the University of Oklahoma graduate school.

(4) **Plan D.** The establishment of regional and professional schools for Negroes, **with segregation,** as proposed by the Suothern Governors Conference.

(3) **Plan C.** Establishment of a new graduate school for Negroes. Adopted by Oklahoma when a new 3-teacher law school for Negroes only was established, thus far with no students.

A ballot was mailed to the entire faculty in each of the 11 state universities. A total of 371 replies was received. Of these 255 (69%) favored Plan A, admitting Negroes to white institutions; 105 (28%) favored Plan D, Regional Schools on segrega-

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ted basis, and 11 (3%) favored Plans B and C.

No signatures were requested and no place for such signature appeared on the ballot sent to faculty members at the University of Oklahoma. In the case of the other institutions, a place for signatures was provided but, it was stated that signatures were optional. Of the total of 370 replies, 205 were signed and 165 were not signed.

Two hundred and twenty-two of the 371 replies listed one or more reasons for the position taken and 148 ballots carried no comment.

The arguments used most frequently in support of Plan A (no segregation) were: opposition to segregation, used 43 times; most democratic, used 34 times; most ethical and just, 34 times; most economical, 31 times; most practical and reasonable, 17 times; best solution of race problem, 10 times; and better educational facilities, 9 times.

Arguments used most often to support Plan D (segregated regional schools) were: better educational facilities, used 12 times; segregation is desirable, used 10 times; Negroes would be happier 8 times; most practical, 6 times; and most economical, 6 times.

The faculty casting the highest percentage of its vote in favor of dropping racial bars was at the University of North Carolina with 88% voting for Plan A, 7% voting for Plan D; 5% for Plan B. The University of Oklahoma with 83% had the second highest percentage vote for Plan A, and the University of Arkansas was third with 80% for Plan A. Virginia had 79%, Texas 77%, Tennessee 70%, and Florida 54% for Plan A.

Mississippi led the three states voting in favor of segregated regional schools, with 78% in favor of Plan D, and 22% for Plan A. Georgia had 71% for Plan D, and South Carolina 63%.

ALABAMA

COMMENT IN FAVOR OF PLAN A

"Good way to break down racial prejudice. The Negro law students are entitled to the same rights as whites, and they might as well get them in their own state."

"It is the democratic way."

"There should be no segregation at any level."

"I consider segregation—either within the same school or with separate facilities — a terrible waste. Any Negro who has reached graduate levels is certainly on an intellectual level with his associates; if his associates have reached the graduate level, they certainly should be prepared to accept the Negro, as an intellectual and social equal."

"It is the only direct approach to actually solving our racial problem."

COMMENT IN FAVOR OF PLAN D

"Plan D would have almost universal support and would insure training for many more colored students. No incentive to keep the number to a minimum . . . Personally, Plan A is acceptable to me."

"I believe that the general attitude of the white student body would make living and studying for the handful of negroes (sic) attending impossible at this time. However, if regional schools are to be but empty shells not halls of learning then I say attempt Plan A as only through education and self improvement may the economic and social lot of the South be improved."

"Neither the whites or colored are ready for non-segregation."

"I favor continued racial segregation as much as possible."

"The negro (sic) in the South is a second class citizen, in fact as well as in law. I think that we would do well to first stress to the negro (sic) that he is not entitled to equality with the white man until he has made himself equal. I do not think that the negro (sic) is entitled as a free gift to receive what the white man has acquired by labor, foresight and intelligence."

END SEGREGATION VS. REGIONAL SCHOOLS

How Faculties in 11 Southern State Universities Voted

	Plan A (No Segregation)		Plan D (Segregated Regional Schools)		Plans B & C		Total
State University	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	
Alabama	11	44%	11	44%	3	12%	25
Arkansas	20	80%	3	12%	2	8%	25
Florida	15	54%	13	42%	1	4%	29
Georgia	6	25%	17	71%	1	4%	24
Mississippi	4	22%	14	78%			18
North Carolina	36	88%	3	7%	2B	5%	41
Oklahoma	82	83%	14	15%	1B 1C	2%	98
South Carolina	3	37%	5	63%			8
Tennessee	19	70%	8	30%			27
Texas	46	76%	14	23%			60
Virginia	11	79%	3	21%			14
Unknown	2						2
Total	255	69%	105	28%	11	3%	371

ARKANSAS

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF PLAN A

"I believe segregation should be eliminated."

"This plan is the only one which would be consistent with the educational standards of a true democracy.

"I favor the **same** opportunities, not equal opportunities."

"It is the only just plan."

"The best step toward the ultimate solution of the race question."

"Demonstrates the same principles upon which this country was founded."

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF PLAN D

"I prefer the Southern Governor's Plan because I believe that it will offer more for the alleviation of the present situation in which the colored race is placed, and will also allow a smoother settlement of racial questions. When the educational levels are brought to a par, then some degree of acceptance of non-segregation will be possible. Prior to that relations will be aggravated and prejudices will only become more deeply ingrained."

FLORIDA

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF PLAN A

"As a Quaker I have no racial prejudices."

"I favor Plan A—no segregation—because segregation is **not** the negro's (sic) answer to any of his problems."

"I am absolutely opposed to segregation at all levels."

"I see no reason for trying to maintain separate schools when we can not even support one adequately."

"This plan is a correct first step towards the elimination of segregation. Vol. 5 No. 8 of the **Patriot** gives a very convincing demonstration that Negro facilities are improving at a **faster rate** than Whites. This is a very cogent and real argument showing that the South can support dual school systems. Obviously, in retort, it is to be pointed out that neither system is adequate."

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF PLAN D

"Educators have advocated regional schools in the South for both white and Negroes for more than twenty years. This is not the Southern Governors' Plan. They simply took up the plan being advocated by educators for many years and called it their own."

"Changes in the social order in the South are not going to work out satisfactorily if they are hurried. And this will be particularly true if white Southerners feel that they are **forced** to make them."

"Plan A is the ideal, but plan D

Graduate and Professional Education

GRADUATE DEGREES	WHITE	NEGRO
MASTER'S DEGREE (MA)	AT LEAST ONE STATE-SUPPORTED COLLEGE IN ALL 17 STATES	8 STATES
DOCTOR'S DEGREE (PHD)	12 STATES	NONE Public or private

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION	WHITE	NEGRO
DENTISTRY	4 STATES	NONE
LAW	16 STATES	4 STATES
MEDICINE	15 STATES	NONE
PHARMACY	14 STATES	NONE
SOCIAL WORK	9 STATES	NONE
LIBRARY SCIENCE	11 STATES	ONE

EXPENDITURE PER PERSON IN STATE-SUPPORTED HIGHER AND PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS		White	NEGRO
	1930	$1.39	$.33
	1945	$2.43	$.56

Thus the difference in favor of the white institutions increased by 13%, instead of being decreased, during the period 1930-44.

Source. *Journal of Negro Education, Census Reports* | Southern Patriot Chart.

The chart above applies to the 17 states maintaining separate schools by law. See chart on next page for the results of this exclusion of Negroes from professional schools.